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IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
FOR THE NORTHERN DISTRICT OF CALIFORNIA

IN RE: VOLKSWAGEN “CLEAN
DIESEL” MARKETING, SALES
PRACTICES, AND PRODUCTS
LIABILITY LITIGATION

This Document Relates to:

Clenenden v. Volkswagen, No. 18-cv-7040
Coon v. Volkswagen, No. 18-cv-6966
Ortiz v. Volkswagen, No. 18-cv-6951
Riley v. Volkswagen, No. 17-cv-2897
Robertson v. Volkswagen, No. 18-cv-6956
Salzer v. Volkswagen, No. 18-cv-7050
Sanwick v. Volkswagen, No. 17-cv-3032

Case No. [15-md-02672-CRB](#)

**ORDER GRANTING MOTION TO
AMEND JUDGMENTS AND BILL
OF COSTS, AND ENTERING
SCHEDULING ORDER**

This motion arises from the consolidated trial and subsequent appeal in these seven actions. On appeal, the Ninth Circuit reversed only two rulings of this Court: (1) the Court’s ruling that the punitive damages awards should be reduced to four times the compensatory damages suffered by each plaintiff; and (2) the Court’s ruling that Volkswagen made appropriate offers of correction under the Consumer Legal Remedies Act (“CLRA”). See Riley v. Volkswagen, 51 F.4th 896 (9th Cir. 2022) (“Riley I”); Riley v. Volkswagen, 2022 WL 10405416 (9th Cir. Oct. 18, 2022) (“Riley II”); Riley v. Volkswagen, 2022 WL 17829997 (9th Cir. Dec. 21, 2022) (“Riley II Amended”). The Ninth Circuit held that a punitive damages multiplier of eight times actual compensatory

United States District Court
Northern District of California

1 damages was constitutionally permissible and appropriate in this case, and that ratio shall
2 be applied to each plaintiff, see Riley I, 51 F.4th at 904; and that the Court erred when it
3 dismissed Plaintiffs' CLRA damages claims, because Volkswagen's offer for Plaintiffs to
4 rejoin the class settlement was not an "appropriate correction" under the statute. See Riley
5 II, 2022 WL 10405416, at *1; Riley II Amended, 2022 WL 17829997, at *3.

6 Following that determination, Volkswagen seeks the following: (1) amended
7 judgments for Plaintiffs Timothy Riley, Julia Robertson, Scott Salzer, and Luke and
8 Kathryn Sanwick to reflect their increased punitive damages awards; (2) an amended bill
9 of costs as to the Sanwicks, because they have now recovered more than the Federal Rule
10 of Civil Procedure 68 offer Volkswagen made to them prior to trial; and (3) a briefing
11 schedule for a motion by Robertson, Salzer, and the Sanwicks for payment of their costs,
12 including possible attorneys' fees, in connection with their CLRA claim. Mot. (dkt. 8102)
13 at 1.

14 For purposes of this motion,¹ Plaintiffs disagree on only Volkswagen's first
15 proposal: Instead of the simple amended judgments Volkswagen has proposed, Plaintiffs
16 argue for more detailed amended judgments, because they "accurately reflect in detail the
17 disposition of all of the Plaintiffs' causes of action." Opp'n (dkt. 8108) at 2. But Plaintiffs
18 do not point to, and the Court does not find, any law that requires the detail Plaintiffs seek.
19 In fact, as Volkswagen points out, the Federal Rules specifically disclaim such detail. See
20 Fed. R. Civ. P. 54(a); see also § 2652 Form of a Judgment, 10 Fed. Prac. & Proc. Civ. (4th
21 ed.) ("It has been said that Rule 54(a) contemplates 'a simple form of judgment . . .
22 eschewing the lengthy recitals familiar in state practice.'") (quoting United States v.
23 Wissahickon Tool Works, 200 F.2d 936, 938 (2d Cir. 1952)).

24 Accordingly, finding this matter suitable for resolution without oral argument

25 _____
26 ¹ The parties also disagree as to whether the fees and costs in connection with the Plaintiffs'
27 CLRA claims must be "proportional" to Plaintiffs' recovery at trial. See Opp'n at 2–3; see also
28 Mot. at 5 ("[T]his Court should now decide whether Robertson, Salzer, and the Sanwicks are
entitled to costs, including reasonable and proportional attorneys' fees, and if so, in what amount."
(emphasis added)). This argument is premature. The Court will resolve these issues on a properly
briefed motion for fees and costs.

1 pursuant to Civil Local Rule 7-1(b), the Court GRANTS the motion, and will enter
2 amended judgments in the Riley, Robertson, Salzer and Sanwick actions and an amended
3 bill of costs in the Sanwick action.

4 The Court also enters the agreed-upon briefing schedule for any motion for fees and
5 costs: Plaintiffs' opening brief shall be due on **March 20, 2023**; Volkswagen's opposition
6 shall be due on **April 24, 2023**; Plaintiffs' reply shall be due on **May 8, 2023**.

7 **IT IS SO ORDERED.**

8 Dated: February 27, 2023



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10 CHARLES R. BREYER
11 United States District Judge
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